(c) 'Police' and 'Public Order' are State subjects under the Constitution of India. However the Government of India is committed to the welfare and development of its people particularly the vulnerable section of society which include the Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes. The Ministry of Home Affairs has been advising the State Governments from time to time to give more focussed attention to improve the administration of the criminal justice system and to take adequate and effective deterrent, punitive and preventive measures.

Issuance of identity cards in bordering States

1424. SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering to issue identity cards to border States including Jammu and Kashmir States; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI): (a) and (b) At present, only a Pilot Project on the scheme of issue of Multipurpose National Identity Card (MNIC) is being undertaken by the Government in a few selected sub-districts of various districts of 13 States and Union Territories including State of Jammu & Kashmir. However, the State Government of Jammu & Kashmir has issued identity cards to all male inhabitants in the age group of 16 to 60 years within 5 Kms. of Line of Control.

Demand for more powers to NHRC

1425. SHRI DATTA MEGHE: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Human Rights Commission has urged the Government to provide more powers and to amend the Human Rights Act accordingly;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government propose to consider the demands of NHRC; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?